

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Independent claim 10 has been further amended so as to clearly distinguish over the newly cited prior art reference to Leverberg et al., U.S. 4,638,668. Claim 10 now sets forth the following:

"...the tip portion has an end face
wherein only the end face of the tip
portion directly contacts a medium whose
variables are to be measured."

This added recitation clearly distinguishes over the '668 document. With regard to the '668 document, it is noted that the flow slot channel (4, 41) communicates the fluid medium to the cylindrical bore (3) and thus, in the embodiment shown in Fig. 3, the temperature sensor (21) is totally in contact with the fluid medium, that is both the entire elongated tip portion (22) and the conical transition portion (23). Claim 10 as amended clearly distinguishes over the teachings of the '668 patent in a patentable manner. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 10 patentably defines over the sum total teachings of the cited and applied prior art references.

In addition to the foregoing, Applicant has added new dependent claim 19. Dependent claim 19 sets forth the following:

"...the base portion of the receiving
element has means for removably
securing the receiving element to the
sensor element."

Claim 19 depends from dependent claim 11 which in turn depends from independent claim 10. The structure set forth in claim 19 allows for different receiving elements to be exchanged in the sensor element. It is submitted that claim 19 further defines over the

cited and applied prior art references.

In addition to the foregoing, it is submitted that dependent claim 14 contains patentable merit in its own right. Contrary to the Examiner's contention, it is not seen where Akeley (the primary reference) teaches different exchangeable receiving elements of various cross sections. If the Examiner is to maintain the rejection of claim 14, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner point out with specificity that portion of the Akeley reference which teaches the claimed subject matter of claim 14.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims as pending patentably define over the art of record and the early issuance of a formal notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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